Lecture-9 Entity-Relationship Diagram

Entity-Relationship Model

- Design Process
- Modeling
- Constraints
- ▶ E-R Diagram
- Design Issues
- Weak Entity Sets
- Extended E-R Features
- Design of the Bank Database
- Reduction to Relation Schemas
- Database Design
- UML

Modeling

- A database can be modeled as:
 - a collection of entities,
 - relationship among entities.
- An entity is an object that exists and is distinguishable from other objects.
 - Example: specific person, company, event, plant
- Entities have attributes
 - Example: people have names and addresses
- An entity set is a set of entities of the same type that share the same properties.
 - Example: set of all persons, companies, trees, holidays

Entity Sets *customer* and *loan*

customer_id customer_ customer_ customer_ name street city

loan_ amount number

321-12-3123	Jones	Main	Harrison
019-28-3746	Smith	North	Rye
677-89-9011	Hayes	Main	Harrison
555-55-5555	Jackson	Dupont	Woodside
244-66-8800	Curry	North	Rye
963-96-3963	Williams	Nassau	Princeton
335-57-7991	Adams	Spring	Pittsfield

L-17	1000
L-23	2000
L-15	1500
L-14	1500
L-19	500
L-11	900
L-16	1300

customer

loan

Relationship Sets

A relationship is an association among several entities Example:

Hayes <u>depositor</u> A-102 customer entity relationship set account entity

A relationship set is a mathematical relation among $n \ge 2$ entities, each taken from entity sets

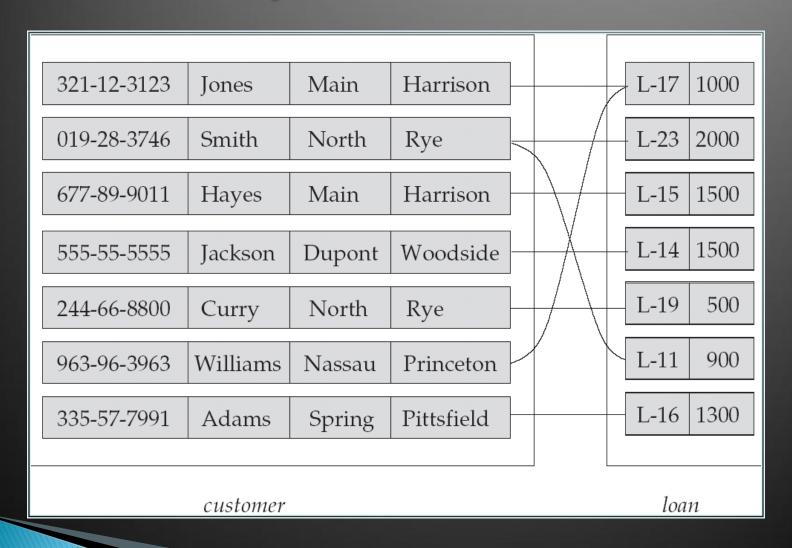
$$\{(e_1, e_2, \dots e_n) \mid e_1 \in E_1, e_2 \in E_2, \dots, e_n \in E_n\}$$

where $(e_1, e_2, ..., e_n)$ is a relationship

• Example:

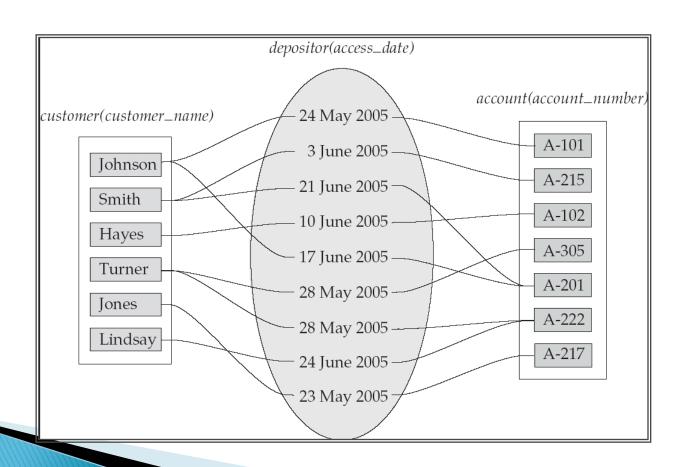
(Hayes, A–102) \in *depositor*

Relationship Set borrower



Relationship Sets (Cont.)

- An attribute can also be property of a relationship set.
- For instance, the *depositor* relationship set between entity sets *customer* and *account* may have the attribute *access-date*



Degree of a Relationship Set

- Refers to number of entity sets that participate in a relationship set.
- Relationship sets that involve two entity sets are binary (or degree two). Generally, most relationship sets in a database system are binary.
- Relationship sets may involve more than two entity sets.
 - Example: Suppose employees of a bank may have jobs (responsibilities) at multiple branches, with different jobs at different branches. Then there is a ternary relationship set between entity sets *employee*, *job*, *and branch*
- Relationships between more than two entity sets are rare.
 Most relationships are binary. (More on this later.)

Attributes

An entity is represented by a set of attributes, that is descriptive properties possessed by all members of an entity set.

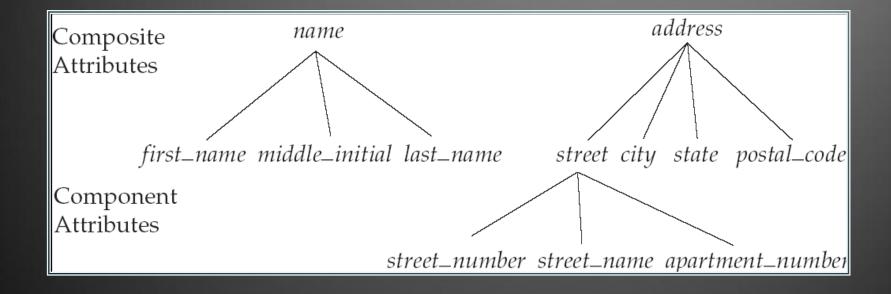
Example:

```
customer = (customer_id,
    customer_name,
    customer_street, customer_city)

    Domain - the set of permitted values for each attribute
```

- Attribute types:
 - Simple and composite attributes.
 - Single-valued and multi-valued attributes
 - Example: multivalued attribute: phone_numbers
 - Derived attributes
 - Can be computed from other attributes
 - Example: age, given date_of_birth

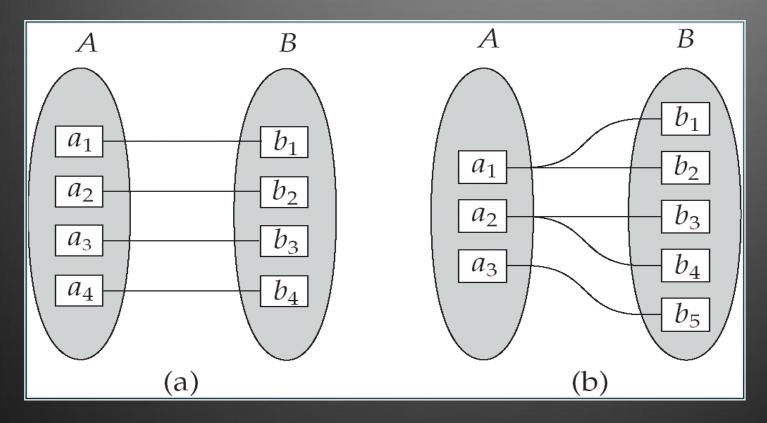
Composite Attributes



Mapping Cardinality Constraints

- Express the number of entities to which another entity can be associated via a relationship set.
- Most useful in describing binary relationship sets.
- For a binary relationship set the mapping cardinality must be one of the following types:
 - One to one
 - One to many
 - Many to one
 - Many to many

Mapping Cardinalities

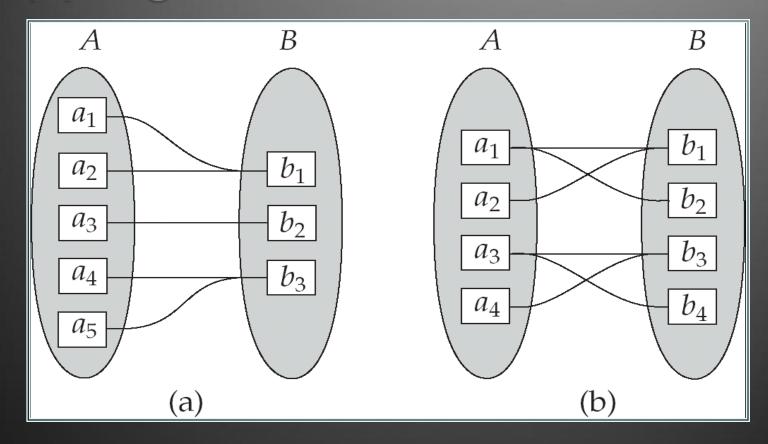


One to one

One to many

Note: Some elements in A and B may not be mapped to any elements in the other set

Mapping Cardinalities



Many to one

Many to many

Note: Some elements in A and B may not be mapped to any elements in the other set

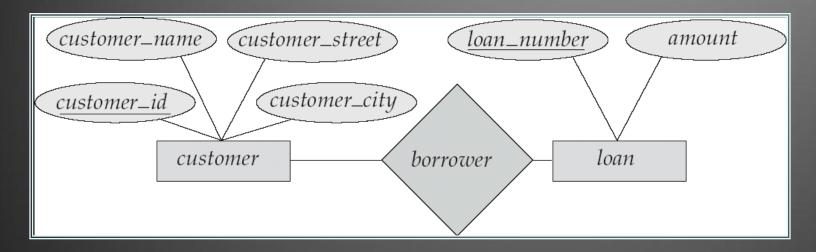
Keys

- A super key of an entity set is a set of one or more attributes whose values uniquely determine each entity.
- A candidate key of an entity set is a minimal super key
 - Customer_id is candidate key of customer
 - account_number is candidate key of account
- Although several candidate keys may exist, one of the candidate keys is selected to be the **primary key**.

Keys for Relationship Sets

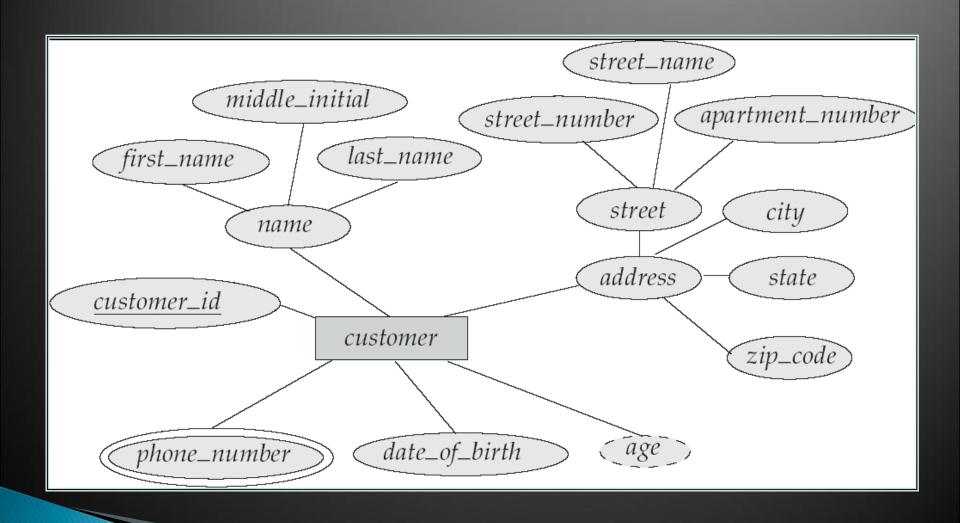
- The combination of primary keys of the participating entity sets forms a super key of a relationship set.
 - (customer_id, account_number) is the super key of depositor
 - NOTE: this means a pair of entity sets can have at most one relationship in a particular relationship set.
 - Example: if we wish to track all access_dates to each account by each customer, we cannot assume a relationship for each access. We can use a multivalued attribute though
- Must consider the mapping cardinality of the relationship set when deciding what are the candidate keys
- Need to consider semantics of relationship set in selecting the *primary key* in case of more than one candidate key

E-R Diagrams

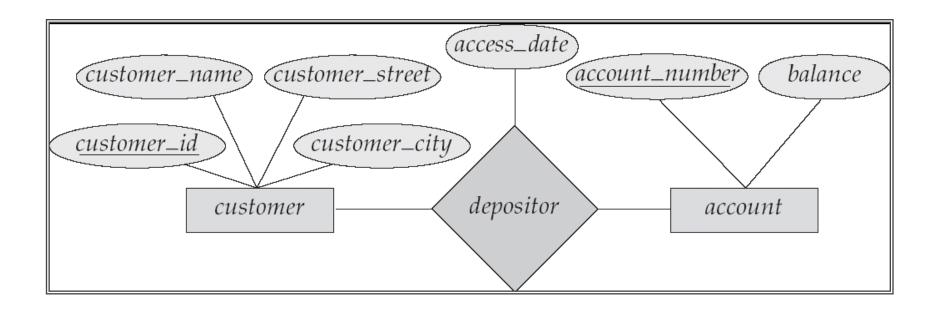


- n Rectangles represent entity sets.
- n Diamonds represent relationship sets.
- n Lines link attributes to entity sets and entity sets to relationship sets.
- n Ellipses represent attributes
 - Double ellipses represent multivalued attributes.
 - Dashed ellipses denote derived attributes.
- n Underline indicates primary key attributes (will study later)

E-R Diagram With Composite, Multivalued, and Derived Attributes

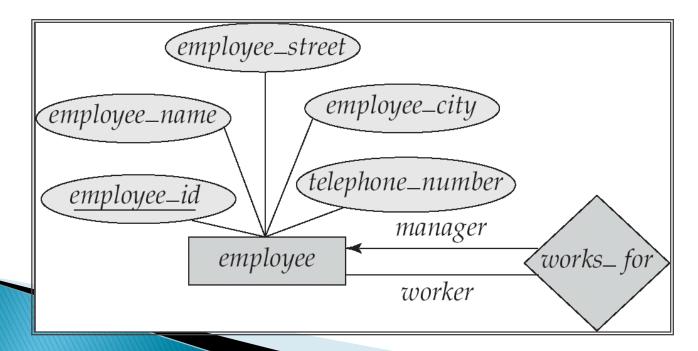


Relationship Sets with Attributes



Roles

- Entity sets of a relationship need not be distinct
- The labels "manager" and "worker" are called roles; they specify how employee entities interact via the works_for relationship set.
- Roles are indicated in E-R diagrams by labeling the lines that connect diamonds to rectangles.
- Role labels are optional, and are used to clarify semantics of the relationship

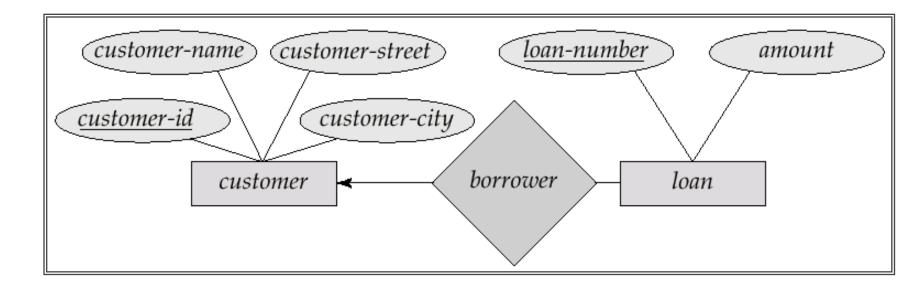


Cardinality Constraints

- We express cardinality constraints by drawing either a directed line (→), signifying "one," or an undirected line (—), signifying "many," between the relationship set and the entity set.
- One-to-one relationship:
 - A customer is associated with at most one loan via the relationship borrower
 - A loan is associated with at most one customer via borrower

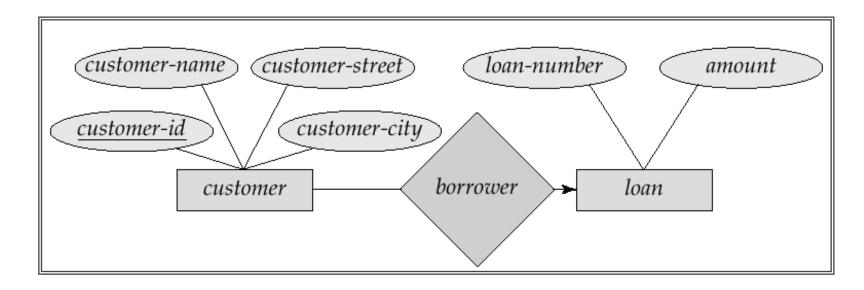
One-To-Many Relationship

In the one-to-many relationship a loan is associated with at most one customer via *borrower*, a customer is associated with several (including 0) loans via *borrower*



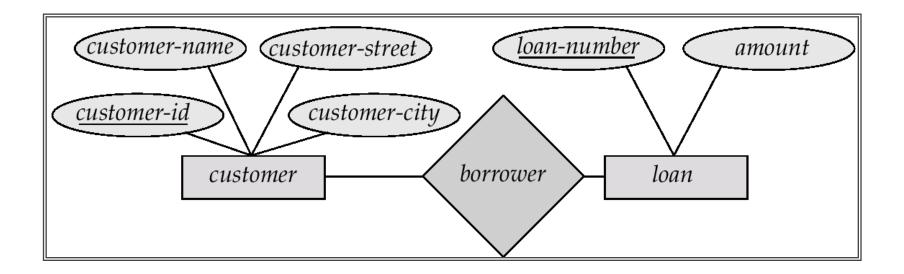
Many-To-One Relationships

In a many-to-one relationship a loan is associated with several (including 0) customers via *borrower*, a customer is associated with at most one loan via *borrower*



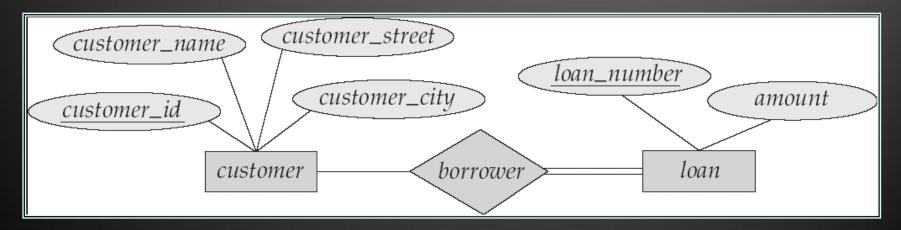
Many-To-Many Relationship

- A customer is associated with several (possibly 0) loans via borrower
- A loan is associated with several (possibly 0) customers via borrower



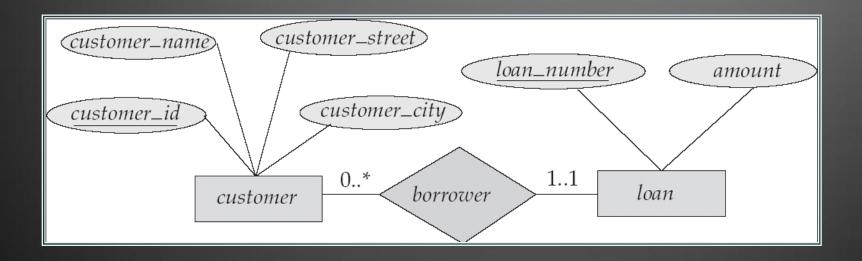
Participation of an Entity Set in a Relationship Set

- n Total participation (indicated by double line): every entity in the entity set participates in at least one relationship in the relationship set
 - E.g. participation of loan in borrower is total
 - every loan must have a customer associated to it via borrower
- n Partial participation: some entities may not participate in any relationship in the relationship set
 - Example: participation of customer in borrower is partial



Alternative Notation for Cardinality Limits

n Cardinality limits can also express participation constraints



E-R Diagram with a Ternary Relationship

